
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5725 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE-WIDE PHOSPHOROUS REDUCTION PLAN.

SUMMARY:

The law requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner, or his designee, to work with specified municipalities to evaluate and make recommendations on a statewide strategy to reduce phosphorus in inland nontidal waters. This bill requires the commissioner to report to the legislature, by October 1, 2014, on these collaborative efforts.

*House Amendment "A" delays the reporting deadline from January 1, 2014 to October 1, 2014.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

STATEWIDE PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION STRATEGY

PA 12-155 required the DEEP commissioner, or his designee, and the chief elected officials, or their designees, of Cheshire, Danbury, Meriden, Southington, Wallingford, Waterbury, and any other impacted municipality to collaboratively evaluate and make recommendations on a statewide strategy to reduce phosphorus loading in inland nontidal waters to comply with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards.

The bill requires the DEEP commissioner, by October, 1, 2014, to report to the Planning and Development and Environment committees on the strategy's recommendations and detail the collaborative effort through which they were reached.

By law, the strategy must include:

1. a statewide response to address phosphorous nonpoint source

pollution;

2. approaches for municipalities to use to comply with EPA standards for phosphorous reduction, including guidance for treatment and potential plant upgrades; and
3. the proper scientific methods for (a) measuring current phosphorous levels in inland nontidal waters and (b) making future projections of phosphorous levels in these waters.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (04/01/2013)